(c) Proposals received from the State Government are examined and decided as per provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981 and guidelines issued under the Act.

Extinction of Hangul Deer in the country

3595. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that hangul deer is facing extinction in the country; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the measures taken for their safety ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir. At present Hangul is classified as a 'vulnerable taxa' but not facing danger of extinction.

(b) During 1970 the Hangul Project was taken up by IUCN and WWF in Jammu and Kashmir. The efforts yielded dividends and the population of Hangul rose from 140 in 1970 to 482 in 1983. A management cum ecological programme was formulated in 1980 which envisages among other things, total protection against grazing, improvement of fodder and immunity from diseases in the Hangul habitat. Hangul deer is also protected under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and is placed in Schedule I giving the species maximum possible protection.

"Grip of Militants in Manas National Park—near Barpeta"

3596. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Manas National Park near Barpeta has been under the grip of militants and there have been many incidents of attack on the security staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that rhino horns, ivory and arms and ammunition had been looted recently from the tiger project range office on the periphery of the Park; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and action Government propose to take to provide adequate security and open the Park to the tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The park is partly under the grip of militants.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The latest incident occured on 3-3-93 at 9.30 P.M. in Bansbari Range Office, where a group of armed miscreants after assaulting the Range Officer and holding other staff at gun point, decamped with 9 Nos. of Rhino horns, 4 Nos. of Rifles, 8 Nos. of guns and cash amounting to Rs. 2.20 lakhs approximately. Deployment of extra para-military personnel for providing adequate security is under consideration of the State Government. The park will be considered to be opened for tourists after the law and order situation there improves.

"वर्तमान पारिस्थिति की कृतिक बलों में रोजगार"

3597. श्री अजीत जोगी :
श्री छोटूभाई पटेल :

क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में वनरोपण के लिए कठिन वर्तमान पारिस्थिति की कृतिक बलों में से प्रत्येक में कुल कितने-कितने कर्मचारी हैं,

(ख) इन बलों में रोजगार देने हेतु क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किये गये हैं,

(ग) इन बलों पर कौन-कौन से प्राधिकारी प्रशासनिक और वित्तीय नियंत्रण करते हैं;

(घ) क्या इन बलों को इनके अच्छे कार्य निष्पादन के बावजूद समाप्त किये जाने की संभावना है, और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) मौजूदा पारिस्थिति की कृतिक बलों में कर्मचारियों की स्वीकृत संख्या निम्न प्रकार है :—

उत्तर प्रदेश	— 243
राजस्थान	— 668
जम्मू व कश्मीर	— 148
योग :	1059

(ख) इन पारिस्थितिकी कृतिक बलों में स्थानीय क्षेत्रों के 18—24 वर्ष की आयु के भूतपूर्व सैनिक कार्मिकों को नियुक्त किया जाता है ।

(ग) इन पारिस्थितिकी कृतिक बल रक्षा मुख्यालय और प्रादेशिक सेना निदेशालय के माध्यम से रक्षा मन्त्रालय के सीधे नियंत्रण में कार्य करते हैं । पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय, जोकि कार्यक्रम को स्वीकृति प्रदान करता है और कार्यान्वयन की अनुवीक्षा करता है की प्लान योजना में धनराशि प्रदान की जा रही है ।

(घ) और (ङ) पारिस्थितिकी कृतिक बलों को समाप्त किए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है । तथापि, लागत प्रभाविकता को सुनिश्चित करने के विचार से यह निर्णय लिया गया है कि चार माह की अवधि के लिए जबकि कार्य की अधिकता नहीं होती, कृतिक बलों के कुल कर्मचारियों में से 90 प्रतिशत कर्मचारियों को कार्य से मुक्त कर दिया जाए ।

Factories causing Water Pollution in Gujarat

3598. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking water is getting poluted due to several factories in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof in connection with the southern parts of Gujarat; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against these factories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) and (b) According to the Gujarat Pollution Control Board there is no report regarding drinking water pollution due to factories in Gujarat. The majority of factories in Southern part of Gujarat are located in the industrial estates developed by the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation. Effluents from these industries are being discharged into estuaries and not into the sources of drinking water.

(c) The Gujarat Pollution Control Board is monitoring all polluting industries and has directed them to comply with the prescribed standards within a time-frame. Legal action has been initiated against the industries not complying with the directive.

Trade in Coral in the Southern Part of the Country

3599. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a clandestine trade in Coral is going on in the southern part of the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Governntent to check this trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Corals are found in the coastal waters. With a view to preserve the coastal stretches alongwith the natural environment, the Government of India has notified the coastal stretches in the country as Coastal Regulation Zones, under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As a result, there are restrictions on activities in the notified zones, which include removal and use of corals and sand from the beaches and coas-